

## **Updated Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview**

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) was given Legislative as well as Control Agency approval to purchase and implement the new Automated Data License System (ALDS). The contract for this system was signed on July 12, 2006 and the License and Revenue Branch (LRB) is currently in the system design phase of this project. This regulation change proposal is the first of several proposals that will be submitted by LRB in order to allow the DFG to implement and use this new system. This package seeks to change existing regulations that are too specific and thus limit the DFG to the current manual system. Without these proposed changes to our regulations, the DFG will be unable to implement and use the ALDS system. In addition to the changes needed to implement ALDS, a few additional minor changes are suggested to update regulatory provisions so they are in keeping with present practices, consistent with other statutes and regulations and for clarity purposes.

Pursuant to its April 13, 2007 meeting, the Fish and Game Commission added Section 700.5 and amended Sections 1.74, 29.15, 116, Subsections (a)(1)(D)(5) of Section 300, (j) of Section 551 and Section 705 as follows:

### **Add Section 700.5:**

Currently in Title 14 there exists over 70 different sections where an application, report or form is mentioned and/or required. Under the ALDS system, while the same information contained on those applications, reports or forms will be required, the forms themselves will be obsolete and the necessary information will be gathered, entered and returned electronically. However, during the transitional period the possibility does exist that we will be operating in both the current manual environment as well as the new ALDS environment. Therefore, this new section is needed to redefine the terms applications, reports and forms to allow us the flexibility to implement and use the ALDS system while still keeping the current manual license environment functional.

### **Amend Section (a) and (b) of Section 1.74:**

Amend Subsection (a) because the current license system requires that the fishing license number be recorded on the salmon punch card and that the salmon punch card number be recorded on the fishing license. These provisions are in place to prevent individuals from purchasing more than one Salmon Punch Card per license year. Under the ALDS, all license sales will be processed real-time and stored in the central ALDS database. The ALDS will enforce business rules including license quantity restrictions. The need to cross-reference license document numbers will be eliminated. This section is being amended to accommodate issuance procedures for both the current license system and the ALDS.

Amend Subsection (b) because the return address for the steelhead report card is outdated in regulation. This change now directs anglers to return their cards to the address specified on the card, thus eliminating the need for future regulation changes to correct the address.

**Amend Subsection (h) and (i) of Section 29.15:**

Amend Subsection (h) to change the current abalone regulations which require that anglers punch a hole and completely remove the punch section (chad) from their abalone permit report cards. Under the ALDS, the license stock or paper will not have pre-punched holes, therefore there will be no "chad" to remove. In addition, this section is being amended because the return address for the abalone report card is outdated in regulation. This change now directs divers to return their abalone report cards to the address specified on the card, thus eliminating the need for future regulation changes to correct the address.

Amend Subsection (i) because the current license system requires that the fishing license number be recorded on the abalone report card and that the abalone report card number be recorded on the fishing license. These provisions are in place to prevent individuals from purchasing more than one Abalone Permit Report Card per license year. Under the ALDS, all license sales will be processed real-time and stored in the central ALDS database. The ALDS will enforce business rules including license quantity restrictions. The need to cross-reference license document numbers will be eliminated. The amendment is proposed to accommodate issuance procedures for both the current license system and the ALDS.

**Amend Subsection (a)(5)(6)(7)(8) of Section 116:**

Amend Subsection (a)(5) as it is not consistent with ALDS document printing requirements.

Amend Subsection (a)(6) as this regulation is overly prescriptive and inconsistent with DFG treatment of other similar and/or identical requirements.

Amend Subsection (a)(7) to remove the permit year specifics due to redundancy as the permit year is already identified in Section 7857 of the Fish and Game Code.

Amend Subsection (a)(8) to renumber.

**Amend Subsection (a)(1)(D)5 of Section 300:**

This change is proposed to update the new department LRB address as well as the department's website address for the purposes of applying for the free sage grouse permits. In addition, language specifying the deadline to apply for permits is being clarified.

**Amend Subsection (j) of Section 551:**

This change is proposed to clarify language specifying the type of hunting license that is required to apply for a waterfowl reservation.

**Amend Section 705:**

Amend Subsection (a) of Section 705 for clarity purposes.

Amend Subsection (b) of Section 705 to refer to the correct section of Fish and Game

Code, Section 7149(a)(5), which specifies One-Day Sport Fishing Licenses.

Amend Subsection (c) to remove obsolete terms.

Amend Subsections (d) and (e) to accommodate for issuance procedures in both the current license system and the ALDS. Specifically, these sections specify the requirements for purchasing a sport fishing or hunting license for another individual and identify the circumstances under which a voucher may be purchased.

## **BACKGROUND ON THE AUTOMATED LICENSE DATA SYSTEM (ALDS)**

By the end of November 2007, the DFG will have automated the current manual issuance process of recreational licenses (i.e. Sport Fishing, Hunting, etc.). The new automated licensing system, known as the Automated License Data System or ALDS will electronically link point-of-sale (POS) terminals at DFG sales offices and approximately 1,600 retail license agent locations statewide allowing license agents the ability to sell all recreational licensing items including several that are currently available only from DFG offices. The ALDS will also allow customers the ability to purchase recreational licenses via the Internet and/or the telephone. The ALDS POS equipment consists of a 15" touch screen color monitor with an embedded CPU, a magnetic card reader, a bar code scanner and a direct thermal printer which prints licenses instantly on highly durable paper, foldable to credit card size for easy carrying or displaying.

## **BENEFITS OF ALDS**

- Increase customer access to license items by making more items available for sale at license agents, via the Internet and the telephone.
- Improve the license sales and issuance process by eliminating the current cumbersome manual issuance process thus making it quicker and easier to buy a license.
- Subsequent year licenses, privileges and, if necessary, duplicate licenses will be faster and easier as customer data will be stored and retrievable instantly eliminating the need to fill out paperwork at every purchase.
- Helps ensure customers are properly licensed as built-in logic will limit license selection to those licenses each customer is qualified for.
- Allow customers to enter drawings and obtain status/results at license agent locations and via the Internet.
- Reduce the risk of untimely and un-collectible license sales revenues from license agents.
- Eliminate cumbersome manual issuance and accounting of license inventory, as well as, reduce printing, postage and storage costs.
- Provide online, real time access for all DFG offices and dispatch centers for law enforcement purposes.
- Provide the ability to participate in multi-State and Agency data sharing projects, e.g., Hunter Education programs and law enforcement compacts.
- Provide databases to improve resource management decisions, identify customer perceptions and attitudes, develop marketing strategies, and retain or restore hunter and angler participation.

- Provide the ability for the DFG to meet Federal and State data collection and reporting mandates that are not currently achievable, e.g., the State Licensing Match System.
- Provide the DFG the mechanism to offer new and related State and Federal services to a broader range of customers, such as, State Park Day Use Permits, Electronic Federal Duck Stamps and National Forest Adventure Passes.

**The following minor editorial changes were made to clarify and simplify the regulations and re-noticed for a period of 15 days:**

- **Section 1.74-** During the process of this rulemaking, another rulemaking amending the text of Section 1.74, Title 14, CCR became operative under Register 2006, No. 31. The noticed changes of this rulemaking were inserted into the current language for this section. Additionally the Authority and Reference note for Section 1.74 failed to show Section 1055.1 of the Fish and Game Code underlined as a new section.
- In several sections a pointer reference was inserted to the Title 14 definition for Automated License Data System (ALDS) in Section 700.4, Title 14, CCR.
- **Section 116 -** In the Authority and Reference Note, Section 15101 was inadvertently omitted from the original text, and has been reinserted.
- **Section 300-** The proposed language removed the departments old License and Revenue Branch (LRB) address and instead referred customers to the website for application information. This section has been clarified by adding the new LRB address and also updates the web address with a more specific web link. In addition, Section 208 was removed from the reference note since it was repealed on January 1, 2007.
- **Section 700.4 -** This section was added to provide the public with a general definition for the Automated License Data System (ALDS).
- **Section 705 -** In subsection (e) the word “annual” was added to both licenses making this section consistent with the referenced Section 1061, Fish and Game Code. New reference sections that were originally noticed without an underline are now shown with an underline.